

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: William C. Hall Farm Inventory Number: QA-53
Address: 131 Bens Point Road City: Church Hill Zip Code: 21623
County: Queen Anne's USGS Topographic Map: Church Hill
Owner: Southeast Creek LLC Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes
Tax Parcel Number: 15 Tax Map Number: 16 Tax Account ID Number: 006596
Project: The Preserve at Southeast Creek Agency: US Army Corps of Engineers
Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

If the property is within a district

District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☒ yes ☐ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP form QA-53, Maryland Historical Trust

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The William C. Hall Farm is located on the south side of Bens Point Road, to the northwest of the town of Church Hill, north of Southeast Creek and west of Route 213. The farm consists of eight farm buildings, a two-story house, a harness racing track, and soy bean fields set on 161 acres. The farm buildings date from the twentieth century. All but one of the buildings have concrete masonry foundations. They are grouped facing east along the driveway/ Heritage Farm Lane (although one small shed is located directly to the south of the house). The house is located at the south end of the driveway and the harness track is located to the west of the farm buildings. A modern house (on an adjacent separate parcel) has been built to the northeast of the house near Bens Point Road.

The house is two stories and runs east and west. As indicated in MIHP Form #QA-53, it was built in two main phases. The west part has two bays, a gambrel roof, and box cornice, and it is taller than the east part. It is estimated to have been built in the late 1830s. The east part of the house has a three bays and a gable roof and was built circa 1840-1855.¹ The north side of the house has four dormer windows and the south has three. The east part of the house has an interior chimney at its east wall.

¹ Orlando Ridout V, MIHP Form QA-53 (William C. Hall Farm), Maryland Historical Trust, 1980.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐

Criteria: ☐ A ☒ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments: House is eligible under Criterion C, as an example of regional vernacular domestic architecture of the period 1830s through 1850s.
Other buildings of later date do not contribute to significance.

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

200502869

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 1

QA-53

The fireplace would have accommodated cooking, and the room where it is located remains a kitchen. The west part of the house has an exterior chimney on its east wall; the east part of the house was built around this chimney. A bulkhead on south side leads into the cellar for the main part of the house. The cellar ceiling joists are gang-sawn hewn timbers, and the brick relieving arch of the chimney is visible in the brick foundation.

The west part of the house is three steps higher than the east part. The house has two staircases, each at the west side of each part of the house. The staircase for the west (older) part of the house is tightly wound at the top, and it opens onto one large room. The staircase for the east part of the house turns at a landing three steps from the bottom, and the upstairs is divided into two rooms. The upstairs of each part of the house are completely segregated from each other, due to the different floor heights and roof types. The first floor of the west part of the house is divided into a parlor and side hall. The original floors, Greek Revival fireplaces, paneled door jams and a corner cabinet remain in the west part of the house, including a fireplace on the second floor.

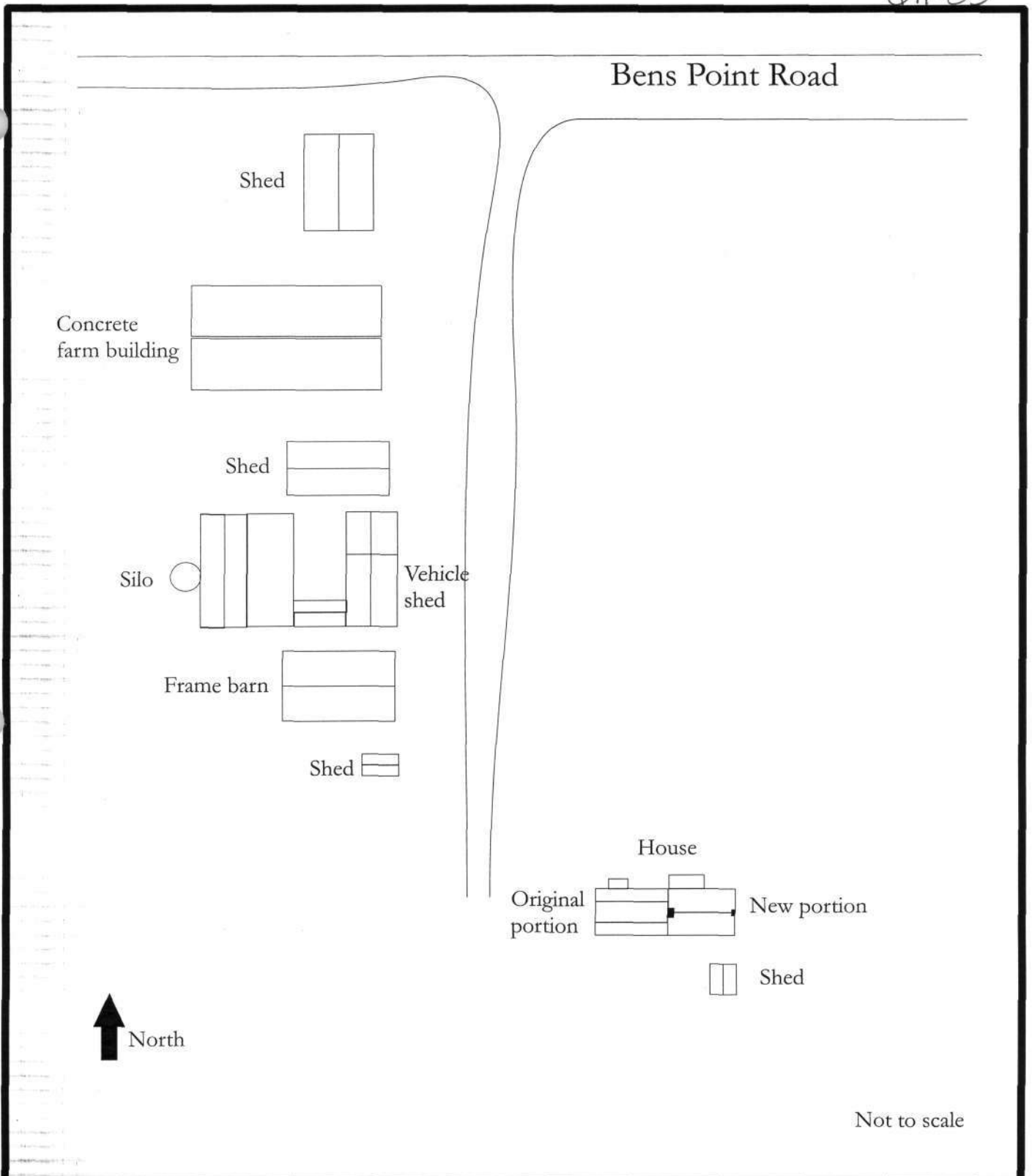
The house was surveyed in 1979-80. At that time, the west part of the house and part of the south wall of the east part were covered in clapboard, with the rest of the house clad in brick. The mix of materials was due to a previous collapse of the south wall. Today, a one-story, shed-roof addition has been added to the east side of the north façade. This addition, along with all the area previously clad with clapboard, is clad with aluminum siding. The original brick wall remains exposed inside this addition. In 1979, there was a porch at the west side of the north façade, which has since been removed, except for the concrete pad. Also since 1979, a second dormer has been added to the second floor of the east part of the north side.

The house has had other alterations. Closets have been added. The windows have been replaced. The brick foundation has been repaired in parts. Paneling has been installed in the stair hall of the east part of the house. The house had been modernized with the introduction of electricity and plumbing for a bathroom and a modernized kitchen. The original main entrance to the house has been blocked by the installation of the bathroom. The 1979 photographs show the ghost of the doorway in the clapboarding under the bathroom window. This change has reversed the physical orientation of the house. Originally, one would have arrived from the south from Southeast Creek, so the south would have been the front. Now one arrives from the north from Bens Point Road, so the north side of the house is considered the front. Originally the farm buildings would have been located behind the house.

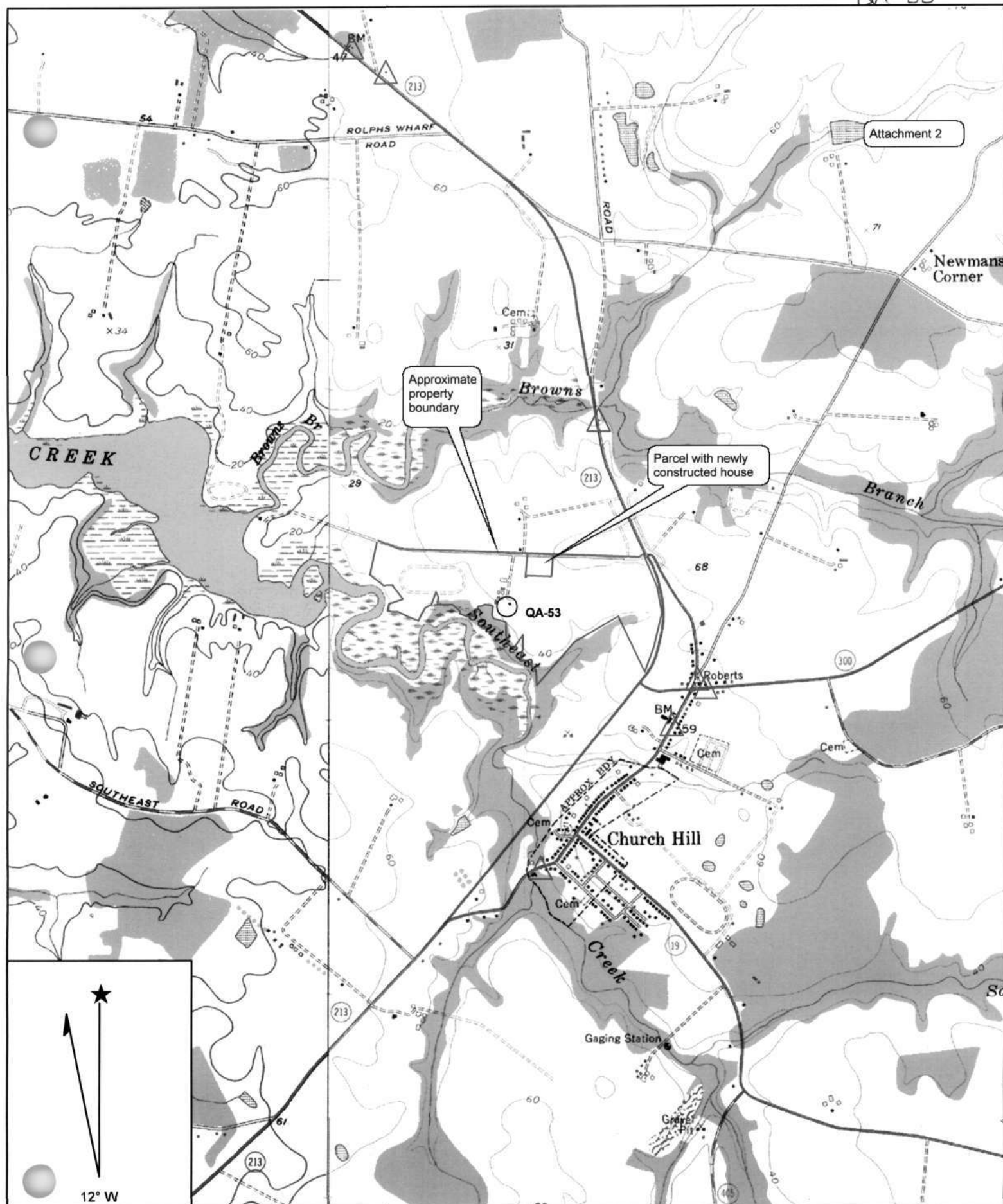
The house is recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places because the west side of the house remains as an example of a single parlor side hall gambrel roof house. The original details and interior finished of this side hall house remain. The addition of the east side of the house, with its segregated second floor, exhibits a pattern of social dynamics of housing a servant and or farmhouse within a small house. The north side addition does not contribute to the historic nature of the resource, but this room is both obvious and reversible, with the original brick and openings remaining inside the addition. The full cellar under the main part of the house shows gang-sawn timbers that were probably cut nearby at the Church Hill Mill, contributing to the interest of this house for local history. The farm buildings are not recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places because they are not significant examples of design or construction and do not possess associative or information value. Likewise, the farm buildings in juxtaposition with the house and fields do not create a significant example of a historic agricultural landscape. Additionally, because of the modern construction adjacent to the property, including the house on Bens Point Road and Route 213 (Church Hill Bypass) to the west, the historic setting of the property has been compromised by visual intrusions. As a whole, the farm is not recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: Rebecca Howell

Date Prepared: 8/31/2005



Attachment 1: Schematic Site Plan
William C. Hall Farm (MIHP #QA-53)
131 Bens Point Road, Church Hill, Maryland 21623 (Queen Anne's County)



Name: CHURCH HILL
 Date: 9/16/2005
 Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 039° 09' 07.57" N 075° 59' 23.50" W
 Caption: William C. Hall Farm- QA-53
 131 Bens Point Road
 Church Hill, MD 21623



MIHP # QA-53

William C. Hall Farm

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Photograph by Rebecca Howell, 8/26/05

Negative at MD SHPO

North facade of house

#1 of 5



MIHP # QA-53

William C. Hall Farm

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Photograph by Rebecca Howell, 8/26/05

Negative at MD SHPO

North and west facades of house

#2 of 5



MIHP #QA-53

William C. Hall Farm

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Photograph by Rebecca Howell, 8/26/05

Negative at MD SHPO

South and east facades of house

#3 of 5



MIHP #QA-53

William C. Hall Farm

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Photograph by Rebecca Howell, 8/26/05

Negative at MD SHPO

First floor, east room of original portion of house

Camera facing Southeast

#4 of 5



MIHP # QA-53

William C Hall Farm

Queen Anne's County, Maryland

Photograph by Rebecca Howell, 8/26/05

Negative at MD SHPO

Farm buildings, view facing north west from house

5 of 5

QA-53

William C. Hall Farm
Church Hill vicinity
Private

circa 1830's
circa 1840-55

The early dwelling on the William C. Hall farm was built in two successive stages in the second quarter of the 19th century. The original section is an unusual two bay example of the side hall, single parlor gambrel roof house, probably constructed in the late 1830's. The three bay brick addition was added circa 1840-1855, and later underwent major repairs following the collapse of part of the south facade. Much of the original detail remains. Features of particular interest include the segregated and unfinished living quarters above the kitchen and the gang-sawn timbers in the cellar, probably cut at the Church Hill Mill nearby.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

William C. Hall Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

South side Ben's Point Road

CITY, TOWN

Church Hill

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

William C. Hall, III

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Church Hill

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21623

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: BHT 9

Folio #: 34

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

QA-53

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William C. Hall Farm is located on the south side of Ben's Point Road, approximately one mile northeast of Church Hill. The early house on the farm is sited on high ground on the north side of the main branch of Southeast Creek.

The house was constructed in two stages. The original frame section is 1 1/2 stories high, two bays wide and one room deep, with a single exterior brick chimney centered on the east end of the gambrel roof. Dating evidence suggests this building was constructed in the 1830's. Soon thereafter, probably circa 1840-1855, a story-and-a-half brick addition with a steeply pitched gable roof was made to the east gable wall. This wing is three bays wide and the same depth as the main house. A large section of the south wall of the brick addition evidently collapsed and has been rebuilt in frame.

The principal facade of the original house faces south toward the creek. The entrance door was located in the west bay, but has been blocked off and replaced with a 6/6 window. There is an original 6/6 window to the right (east) and two

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

QA-53

PERIOD

PREHISTORIC
1400-1499
1500-1599
1600-1699
1700-1799
X 1800-1899
X 1900-

__ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
__ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
__ AGRICULTURE
X ARCHITECTURE
__ ART
__ COMMERCE
__ COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

__ COMMUNITY PLANNING
__ CONSERVATION
__ ECONOMICS
__ EDUCATION
__ ENGINEERING
__ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
__ INDUSTRY
__ INVENTION

__ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
__ LAW
__ LITERATURE
__ MILITARY
__ MUSIC
__ PHILOSOPHY
__ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

__ RELIGION
__ SCIENCE
__ SCULPTURE
__ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__ THEATER
__ TRANSPORTATION
__ OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The early dwelling on the William C. Hall farm was built in two successive stages in the second quarter of the 19th century. The original section is an unusual two bay example of the side hall, single parlor gambrel roof house, probably constructed in the late 1830's. The three bay brick addition was added circa 1840-1855, and later underwent major repairs following the collapse of part of the south facade. Much of the original detail remains. Features of particular interest include the segregated and unfinished living quarters above the kitchen and the gang-sawn timbers in the cellar, probably cut at the Church Hill Mill nearby.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

6/12/80

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

Field Notebook QA-XII, Recorded October 16, 1979.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

6/6 shed roof dormers on the second floor. A bulkhead cellar entrance is located in the east bay and a small cellar window in the west bay of the foundation, which is laid in three-course bond. The lower part of the facade is covered with German siding, while the upper part, protected by the eave overhang, is sheathed with early beaded weatherboards. A beaded cornerboard survives on the southwest corner, the southeast cornerboard has been replaced. The eave is finished with a box cornice with a beaded fascia board and a crown mold consisting of a beaded board set at the appropriate angle. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

There are no openings in the west gable. The east gable is almost entirely covered by the later addition. A wide, exterior brick chimney is centered on this end of the house.

The north facade is virtually identical to the south facade. The door is located in the west bay, with a single 6/6 in the east bay and two 6/6 shed roof dormers on the second floor. The original beaded frames with backband trim have survived on both first floor openings. Beaded weatherboards cover the entire facade and both beaded cornerboards remain intact. The box

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

cornice has a beaded fascia board and a plain beveled crown mold. A seam in the three-course bond foundation suggests a blocked cellar window below the first floor window.

The majority of the south wall of the wing collapsed at some point and has been replaced with frame. The remaining brickwork is laid in three-course bond below a two-course corbeled cornice. The rebuilt frame section is covered with narrow horizontal siding nailed with wire nails. The fenestration is asymmetrical. A door is located to the right of center, flanked by a single widely spaced 6/6 to the left and a second 6/6 to the right. There is a single 6/6 shed roof dormer above the west window. The profile of the original corbeled cornice is imitated in wood on the frame section.

The east gable of the addition is also laid in five course bond, with a flush chimney centered on the ridge. A pair of four-light windows flanking the chimney in the upper gable are the only openings.

The original five-course bond brickwork and corbeled cornice have survived intact across the entire north facade. There are doors in the west and center bays and a modern paired 6/6 window in the east bay. A single 6/6 shed roof dormer is located in the west bay on

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

the second floor.

The original house has a side hall, single parlor plan. A straight-run stair rises against the west wall of the passage, then turns in a tight winder to the second floor. The banister has been removed from the straight section of stair, but has been stored on the second floor. The rail is plain, with square ballusters and a 20th century newel. A four panel door with flattened ogee panel molds opens to a closet below the stairs. Later flooring in the closet and framing evidence in the cellar indicates there was originally a steep ladder-stair to the cellar. The door architraves on this door and the door to the parlor are rabbeted and beaded, a profile typical of the Greek Revival period.

The fireplace in the parlor is centered on the east gable wall. The chimney is on the exterior of the gable and does not project into the room, a feature only occasionally encountered in this area. The fireplace opening has been blocked, but the hearth and mantel remain. The mantel is a beaded board surround with reeded Greek Revival pilasters that terminate in rabbeted side blocks. The reeding is carried across

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

the top of the opening below a plain frieze set off by a molded "panel" edge. The complex molded shelf is dominated by a Greek Revival profile. An original door to the left of the fireplace leads to the wing. The soffit and jambs are paneled, and the four-panel door has the same flattened ogee panel mold as the door below the stair landing. The architrave moldings match the hall doors; the baseboard is rabbeted. Patches of fallen plaster reveal riven lath secured with machine nails.

The second floor has been opened up into a single large room with a blocked fireplace on the east gable. The mantel is similar to the first floor mantel, but the side blocks are paneled with flattened ogee panel molds. There is no access to the roof or the eaves.

There is a full cellar below the original house. An arched recess in the center of the east gable marks the location of the exterior chimney base. The ceiling joists run parallel to the gable walls and are gang-sawn from hewn timbers. It is relatively unusual to find heavy framing timbers in pre-Civil War houses that are not pit-sawn from hewn logs. It is highly probable that these timbers were sawn locally at the Church Hill

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.5 DESCRIPTION

Mill, which is only slightly over a mile away and is known to have operated a saw mill as early as 1765.

The first floor of the wing is three steps lower than the main house and is divided into two rooms. The exterior chimney of the original house projects into the west room. An enclosed winder stair and a small cupboard are built into the southwest corner of this room, to the left of the chimney. Three steps to the right of the chimney lead up to the parlor of the original house.

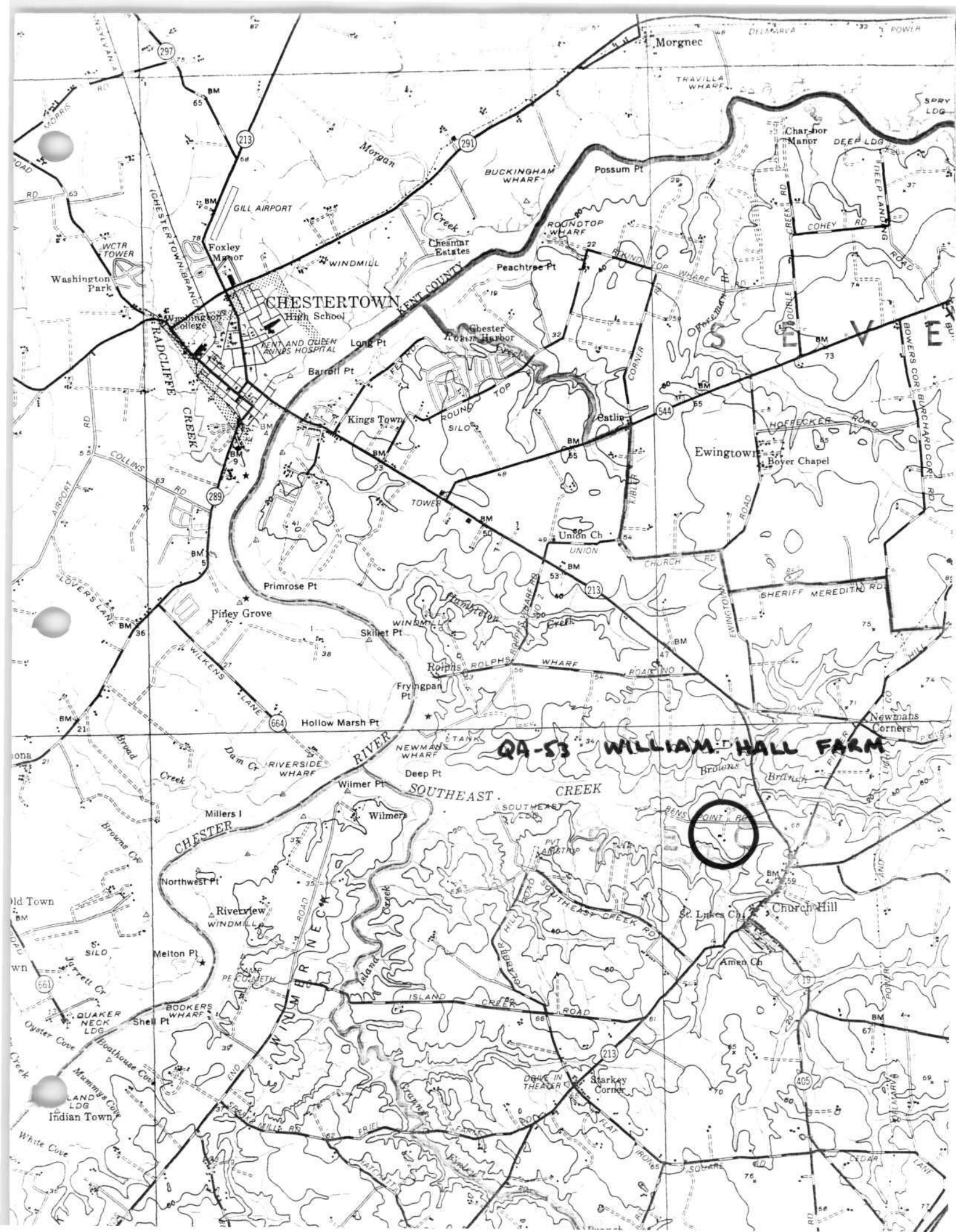
A large pyramidal chimney projects from the east gable wall in the south room, which serves as the kitchen. A steep ladder-stair to the left of the chimney has been removed and the opening closed off. The only detail of note in this room are the beaded horizontal boards that sheath the majority of the interior partition wall.

The second floor is divided into two rooms by a plain board partition wall. The west side of this wall has been plastered, as has the entire west room. The lathing is machine sawn and secured with machine nails. The east room is whitewashed and has never been plastered. There are no collar beams; the rafters are

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.6 DESCRIPTION

joined at the ridge with a pegged mortise-and-tenon joint. The door opening that connects these two rooms has been cut in and is fitted with a 20th century door. It is clear that these two rooms were originally segregated, the east room serving as a sleeping chamber for the kitchen servant or for a farm hand. This unheated and unfinished servants room contrasts sharply with the simple but finished appearance of the west room.



QA-53
William C. Hull Farm

Mary McCarthy
Spring/Summer 2003
Digital color photo on file at MHT





QA-53

William Hall Farm
Church Hill vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1979
South facade



QA-53

William Hall Farm
Church Hill vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1979
View from Southwest



QA-53

William Hall Farm
Church Hill vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1979
View from Northeast



Q.A.

QA-53

53

William Hall Farm

April 1974
JWV